

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

If Sinclair wants to broadcast such stuff, they may do so. But they may not, under any circumstances, call it "news." News, by its very nature, implies that it is entirely truthful and not biased. Sinclair is imposing the views of one man on thousands of people who may believe those views are "truth" simply because they are being called "news." If Sinclair and his broadcasting monopoly want to call this "opinion" and wish to also broadcast an opposing "opinion"...great. If not, if they continue to persist in this incredible misuse of public airwaves, then they should be made to dissolve their company. I am an American citizen, and I demand that Sinclair be forced to recognize the duty they have to serve the public. The public does not exist to serve Sinclair!

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.